INTRODUCED
PUBLIC HEARING
COUNCIL ACTION
EXEC. ACTION
EFFECTIVE DATE

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2005 Legislative Session Legislative Day No. 6

Bill No. 27-2005

Introduced by: The Chairman at the request of the County Executive

AN ACT to authorize and empower Howard County, Maryland to borrow, on its full faith and credit, up to \$11,713,000 from the Maryland Water Quality Financing Administration (the "Administration"), and to issue and sell its installment bonds to the Administration, the proceeds thereof to be used to pay costs of certain County sewer capital projects, as described in the County's 2006 Capital Budget, and to pay all related costs; and to levy taxes upon the assessable property within the County sufficient, together with benefit assessments, ad valorem taxes levied upon assessable property in the Metropolitan District and other available funds, to pay the debt service on such bonds; authorizing the County to enter into a Loan Agreement with the Administration to effect and further evidence such borrowing; and making certain findings and determinations.

Introduced and read first time, 2005. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.		
By order		
·	Sheila M. Tolliver, A	dministrator
Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published account time at a public hearing on, 2005 and concluded on, 200		ll was read for a secon
	By order	
	Sheila M. Administ	,
This Bill was read the third time on, 2005 and Passed, Passed with amendments	, Failed	
	By order	
	Sheila M. Administ	Tolliver,
Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval thisday of	2005 at a.m./p.	m.
	By order	
	Sheila M.	
	Administ	гаюг
Approved by the County Executive, 2004		
	James N. Robey, Cour	nty Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN ALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; Strike out indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1	Recitals
2	In accordance with the provisions of Section 603 of the Charter of Howard County, the
3	County Executive (the "County Executive") of Howard County, Maryland (the "County") has
4	submitted a proposed Capital Budget for fiscal year 2006 to the County Council of Howard County,
5	Maryland (the "County Council"), and, prior to the passage of this Act, the County Council has
6	adopted a Capital Budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006 (the "Capital Budget").
7	Pursuant to and in accordance with the Maryland Water Quality Financing
8	Administration Act, Sections 9-1601 to 9-1622 of the Environment Article, Annotated Code of
9	Maryland, as amended (the "MWQFA Act"), the Maryland Water Quality Financing
10	Administration (the "Administration") is authorized to issue its bonds to provide moneys for
11	deposit into the Maryland Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund (the "Fund") to be used to make
12	loans to "local governments" for the purpose of financing all or a portion of the cost of a
13	"wastewater facility" (both as defined in the MWQFA Act).
14 15 16	Section 9-1606 of the MWQFA Act provides as follows: '9-1606 Loans.
17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	(a) Loan Agreement. A loan made by the Administration shall be evidenced by a loan agreement. Loans made from the Water Quality Fund shall be subject to the provisions of 9-1605(d)(1) of this article. Loans made from the Drinking Water Loan Fund shall be subject to the provisions of § 9-1605.1 (d) (1) of this subtitle. Subject to the provisions of any applicable bond resolution, the Administration may consent to the modification, with respect to rate of interest, time of payment of any installment of principal or interest, security, or any other term of any loan agreement or loan obligation. In connection with any security received by or owned by the Administration, including any loan obligations, the Administration may commence any action to protect or enforce the rights conferred upon it by any law or loan agreement or loan obligation.
32 33 34 35	(b) Issue and sale of loan obligations by borrower. Notwithstanding any other provision of public general or public local law, charter, or ordinance, a borrower may issue and sell loan obligations to the Administration:
36 37 38	(1) At private sale, without public bidding;

- (2) Without regard to any limitations on the denomination of such obligations; and
- (3) At any interest rate or cost or at any price that the borrower considers necessary or desirable.
- (c) Payment of fees or charges by borrower. A borrower may pay any fees or charges necessary to enable the Administration to sell its bonds, including any fees for the insurance of its loan obligations or bonds of the Administration, or to provide any other guarantee, credit enhancement, or additional security for any such loan obligations or bonds.
- (d) Pledge of moneys borrower is entitled to receive from State. Notwithstanding any other provision of public general or public local law, charter, or ordinance, a borrower may agree with the Administration to pledge any moneys that the borrower is entitled to receive from the State, including the borrower's share of the State income tax, to secure its obligations under a loan agreement. The State Comptroller and the State Treasurer shall cause any moneys withheld under such a pledge to be paid to, or applied at the direction of the Administration.
- (e) Loan obligation cancelable only upon repayment in full. Each loan agreement shall contain a provision whereby the borrower acknowledges and agrees that the borrower's loan obligation is cancelable only upon repayment in full and that neither the Administration, the Secretary, nor the Board is authorized to forgive the repayment of all or any portion of the loan, except for loans to disadvantaged communities, pursuant to the federal Safe Drinking Water Act.
- (f) Default on loan obligation. In the event of a default on a loan obligation by a borrower other than a local government, the Administration may place a lien against property of the borrower securing the loan which, subject to the tax liens of the federal, State, and local governments, shall have the same priority and status as a lien of the State for unpaid taxes under §§ 14-804 and 14-805 of the Tax-Property Article. The Administration may exercise the same rights and powers in enforcing such lien and collecting funds for the payment of amounts in default under the loan obligation as the State may exercise in collecting unpaid taxes under Title 14, Subtitle 8 of the Tax-Property Article."

The Capital Budget includes the appropriation of \$11,713,000 to be borrowed from the Administration in accordance with the MWQFA Act to pay a portion of the costs of certain sewer capital projects specified in the County's Capital Budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006 which are more particularly described in Appendix A to this bond enabling law (each, a "Project")

- and to pay all related costs. The County is a "local government" and each of the Projects is a "wastewater facility", both as defined in the MWQFA Act.
- **Now therefore**,

- Section 1. Be it enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, That all terms used herein with an initial capital letter and defined in the Recitals hereof shall have the meanings given such terms therein, unless the context clearly indicates a contrary meaning.
 - Section 2. Be it further enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland,

 (a) That Howard County, Maryland (the "County") is hereby authorized and empowered to borrow, on its full faith and credit, an amount not exceeding \$11,713,000 from the Administration and to issue and sell one or more installment bonds (each, a "Bond") to the Administration, at one time or from time to time within four years from the effective date of this Act, pursuant to and in accordance with the Howard County Charter and the MWQFA Act, the proceeds thereof to be used for payment of costs of the Projects, as more particularly specified and described in Appendix A hereto and in the County's Capital Budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, and for payment of all related costs, including, without limitation, the costs incurred by the County in connection with the issuance of the Bond or Bonds to the Administration, and the cost of planning, construction, improvements, renovation, rehabilitation, equipping, engineering and architect's services, surveys, landscaping, site development and land acquisition, to the extent permitted under the MWQFA Act.
 - (b) Each Bond shall constitute a "loan obligation" within the meaning of the MWQFA Act.
- 21 (c) The County is further authorized to enter into a Loan Agreement with the 22 Administration (a "Loan Agreement") to effect and evidence each loan from the Administration.
 - Section 3. Be it further enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, That, for each Bond issued under this Act, the County Council, by an ordinance or ordinances adopted from time to time in accordance with Sections 606 and 618 of the Howard County Charter, the MWQFA Act, and other applicable provisions of law, shall provide for (a) the issuance and sale

1	of	such	Bond	to	the	Administration,	(b)	the	designation	on,	form,	tenor,	maximum	principal	amoun
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- (and the formula for computing the final principal amount), denomination and maturity (not
- 3 exceeding thirty years), (c) the amortization schedule of such Bond (or the formula for computing
- 4 such schedule), (d) the interest rate (or the method of determining such rate) payable on such Bond,
- 5 and (e) the form and terms and conditions of the Loan Agreement.

6 Section 4. Be it further enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland,

- 7 That for the purpose of paying the principal of and interest on the Bonds as the same shall become
- 8 payable, the County Council shall levy annually ad valorem taxes upon the assessable property in
- 9 Howard County sufficient, together with benefit assessments, ad valorem taxes levied upon
- assessable property in the Metropolitan District and other available funds, to pay the principal of and
- interest on the Bonds until the entire principal amount of the Bonds shall mature and be redeemed.

Section 5. Be it further enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland,

- 13 That the County anticipates that a portion of the costs of the Projects will be paid prior to the
- issuance of the Bonds. The amount of such costs so paid will depend on various factors, including,
- without limitation, the timing and speed of progress on the Projects, the availability of other funds to
- 16 pay such costs on an interim basis, bond and money market conditions and compliance with federal
- 17 and State laws and regulations.

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- Accordingly, the County reasonably expects to reimburse costs of the Project (as described
- 19 herein) with proceeds of the Bonds, such Bonds to be issued by the County in the maximum
- 20 principal amount of \$11,713,000.
- 21 Section 6. Be it further enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland,
- That this Act shall take effect sixty-one (61) days after its enactment.

<u>\$11,713,000</u>

Sewer Projects

TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE BORROWED:

Project Description	Amount to be Borrowed
S6205 FY1998 L.P. WATER RECLAMATION PLANT ADDITION # A project for the upgrade / expansion of the Little Patuxent Water Reclamation Plant to increase the capacity of treatment facilities from 18 MGD to 25 MGD to meet projected sewage flows.	\$3,713,000
S6214 SEWER CONTINGENCY FUND The fund is designed for use as a revenue source for transfers of appropriations when either construction costs are higher than originally estimated or engineering must be advanced from future years to the present fiscal year for critical sewer needs.	8,000,000